

Amendments To The Claims

1. (*currently amended*) An isolated and purified nucleic acid molecule that encodes serine protease T and has a nucleotide sequence ~~corresponding to~~ set forth in SEQ.ID.NO.:1 or SEQ.ID.NO.:8.
2. (*currently amended*) The isolated and purified nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, having a nucleotide sequence ~~corresponding to~~ set forth in SEQ.ID.NO.:1.
3. (*canceled*).
4. (*currently amended*) An expression vector, wherein said vector contains a nucleic acid molecule having a nucleotide sequence ~~corresponding to~~ set forth in SEQ.ID.NO.:1 or SEQ.ID.NO.:8 that encodes serine protease T having an amino acid sequence ~~corresponding to~~ set forth in SEQ.ID.NO.:7 or SEQ.ID.NO.:9.
5. (*currently amended*) The expression vector of claim 4, wherein the nucleotide sequence ~~corresponds to~~ is set forth in SEQ.ID.NO.:1.
6. (*canceled*).
7. (*original*) A recombinant host cell containing the expression vector of claim 4.
8. (*currently amended*). The recombinant host of claim 7, wherein the nucleotide sequence of the nucleic acid molecule contained in the expression vector ~~corresponds to~~ is set forth in SEQ.ID.NO.:1.
- 9-13. (*canceled*).
14. (*currently amended*) A process for expression of serine protease T in a recombinant host cell, comprising:
 - (a) transferring an expression vector containing a nucleic acid molecule having a nucleotide sequence ~~corresponding to~~ set forth in SEQ.ID.NO.:1 or SEQ.ID.NO.:8 that encodes serine protease T having an amino acid sequence ~~corresponding to~~ set forth in SEQ.ID.NO.:7 or SEQ.ID.NO.:9 into suitable host cells; and
 - (b) culturing the host cells of step (a) under conditions which allow expression of the serine protease T from the expression vector.
- 15-27. (*canceled*).

28. (*currently amended*) The isolated and purified nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, having a nucleotide sequence ~~corresponding to~~ set forth in SEQ.ID.NO.:8.

29. (*currently amended*) The expression vector of claim 4, wherein the nucleotide sequence ~~corresponds to~~ is set forth in SEQ.ID.NO.:8.

30. (*currently amended*) The recombinant host of claim 7, wherein the nucleotide sequence of the nucleic acid molecule contained in the expression vector ~~corresponds to~~ is set forth in SEQ.ID.NO.:8.